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*SLA*

# Water Supply Outlook For Nevada



SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Cooperating with

NEVADA DEPARTMENT of CONSERVATION  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

AS OF  
May 1, 1983



## TO RECIPIENTS OF WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK REPORTS:

Most of the usable water in western states originates as mountain snowfall. This snowfall accumulates during the winter and spring, several months before the snow melts and appears as streamflow. Since the runoff from precipitation as snow is delayed, estimates of snowmelt runoff can be made well in advance of its occurrence. Streamflow forecasts published in this report are based principally on measurement of the water equivalent of the mountain snowpack.

Forecasts become more accurate as more of the data affecting runoff are measured. All forecasts assume that climatic factors during the remainder of the snow accumulation and melt season will interact with a resultant average effect on runoff. Early season forecasts are therefore subject to a greater change than those made on later dates.

The snow course measurement is obtained by sampling snow depth and water equivalent at surveyed and marked locations in mountain areas. A total of about ten samples are taken at each location. The average of these are reported as snow depth and water equivalent. These measurements are repeated in the same location near the same dates each year.

Snow surveys are made monthly or semi-monthly from January 1 through June 1 in most states. There are about 1900 snow courses in Western United States and in the Columbia Basin in British Columbia. Networks of automatic snow water equivalent and related data sensing devices, along with radio telemetry are expanding and will provide a continuous record of snow water and other parameters at key locations.

Detailed data on snow course and soil moisture measurements are presented in state and local reports. Other data on reservoir storage, summaries of precipitation, current streamflow, and soil moisture conditions at valley elevations are also included. The report for Western United States presents a broad picture of water supply outlook conditions, including selected streamflow forecasts, summary of snow accumulation to date, and storage in larger reservoirs.

Snow survey and soil moisture data for the period of record are published by the Soil Conservation Service by states about every five years. Data for the current year is summarized in a West-wide basic data summary and published about October 1 of each year.

### *COVER PHOTO: FRESH POWDER SNOW ON ELEPHANT MOUNTAIN, NEAR WEST FORK OF HYALITE CREEK, MONTANA*

Published by Soil Conservation Service

The Soil Conservation Service publishes reports following the principal snow survey dates from January 1 through June 1 in cooperation with state water administrators, agricultural experiment stations and others. Copies of the reports for Western United States and all state reports may be obtained from Soil Conservation Service, West Technical Service Center, Room 510, 511 N.W. Broadway, Portland, Oregon 97209.

Copies of state and local reports may also be obtained from state offices of the Soil Conservation Service in the following states:

STATE	ADDRESS
Alaska	Room 129, 2221 East Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage, Alaska 99504
Arizona	Room 3008, Federal Building, 230 N. First Ave., Phoenix, Arizona 85025
Colorado (N. Mex.)	P. O. Box 17107, Denver, Colorado 80217
Idaho	Room 345, 304 N. 8th St., Boise, Idaho 83702
Montana	P. O. Box 98, Bozeman, Montana 59715
Nevada	P. O. Box 4850, Reno, Nevada 89505
Oregon	1220 S. W. Third Ave., Portland, Oregon 97204
Utah	4420 Federal Bldg., 125 South State St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84138
Washington	360 U.S. Court House, Spokane, Washington 99201
Wyoming	P. O. Box 2440, Casper, Wyoming 82602

#### PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Water Supply Outlook reports prepared by other agencies include a report for California by the Snow Surveys Branch, California Department of Water Resources, P. O. Box 388, Sacramento, California 95802 --- for British Columbia by the Ministry of the Environment, Water Investigations Branch, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X5 --- for Yukon Territory by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Northern Operations Branch, 200 Range Road, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory Y1A 3V1 --- and for Alberta, Saskatchewan, and N.W.T. by the Water Survey of Canada, Inland Waters Branch, 110-12 Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta T3C 1A6.



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cooperative snow surveys. ¶  
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# **WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK**

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# **WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA**

**AND  
FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS**



*Issued by*

**PETER C. MYERS  
CHIEF  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON D.C.**

*Released by*

**GERALD THOLA  
STATE CONSERVATIONIST  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
RENO, NEVADA**

*In Cooperation with*

**ROLAND D. WESTERGARD  
DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
CARSON CITY, NEVADA**



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All average are for 1963-1977 period.





# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*  
\* The Winter of 1983 has been a season of records. The May first \*  
\* snow surveys have indicated that 33 measurement sites set record \*  
\* water contents. The extremely large snowpack will provide plen- \*  
\* tiful water supplies, but difficulties may arise in handling the \*  
\* streamflows as the snowpack begins to melt. \*  
\*  
\* Reservoirs have been drawn down as far as possible to allow for \*  
\* management of streamflows. Rye Patch, Topaz, Bridgeport, Boca, and \*  
\* Lake Tahoe have all been drawn down the past month. Stampede and \*  
\* Wildhorse Reservoirs are presently flowing over their spillways. \*  
\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

## SIERRA EAST SLOPE

Storms crossing the Sierra during May have significantly increased water contents at high elevations and maintained below average temperatures. The below average temperatures caused the lower elevation snow to melt at a much slow rate than usual.

Fourteen sites along the East Slope of the Sierra have set all time water content records. Six of these record measurements were made in the Lake Tahoe Basin, and virtually all of the measurements surpassed their previous May first records. Marlette Lake, which surpassed its all time maximum water content at the April survey, set a new maximum water content with the May 1 survey. The previous maximum water content at Marlette Lake was measured in 1969 at 45.5 inches of water. The new record taken April 26th was 48.2 inches water content. The Truckee Basin had four all time record measurements. Squaw Valley #2, located on a ridge to the south and west of the well know KT22 in the Squaw Valley Ski Area, measured 229 inches of depth and 104.2 inches water content. The previous record was measured in 1969 at 184 inches depth and 84.0 inches water content. In the Carson Basin, four sites measured all time record water content.

Reservoir management during April has been difficult with reservoir operators attempting to obtain sufficient storage to manage the flows expected when snow-melt reaches its maximum rate. Topaz, Bridgeport, Lahontan, Boca, and Lake Tahoe have been drawn down 121,000 acre feet and should help to manage the approximately 1.5 million acre feet expected from the drainages along the Sierra.

Streamflows will be high, with the Truckee River forecast at 214 percent of average, the Carson River at 237 percent of average, the West Walker 205 percent of average, and the East Walker at 250 percent of average. Pyramid Lake has increased 7.67 feet since October 1, 1982 and is expected to rise a minimum of 4.5 more feet with a most probable rise at 7.5 feet.

### HUMBOLDT BASIN

Snow measurements taken in the Humboldt Basin indicate a 206 percent of average snowpack. Dorsey Basin and Green Mountain have both reached maximum water contents for May first.

Snowmelt has been proceeding at a slower than normal rate, but many of the lower elevation sites have melted out completely.

Streamflow has already been significant with the Humboldt River, above Elko, leaving its banks several times. Excessive flows have been confined mainly to pastureland. The Humboldt is forecast at 226 percent of average and water supplies will be excellent, providing sufficient irrigation water late in the year.

Rye Patch Reservoir contents remained the same as last month. Significant flow has reached the Humboldt Sink causing some problems with spreading water.

### OWYHEE AND SNAKE BASINS

Snowpacks in the Owyhee and Snake Basins are 185 percent and 145 percent of average, respectively, and will supply water for irrigation well into the irrigation season.

Wildhorse Reservoir is full. Streamflows into the reservoir are forecast at 45,000 acre feet. The spillway began flowing on April 21st and discharge has reached 786 cubic feet per second. Runoff has just begun and should not reach its maximum until the first or second week in June. This indicates that flows will not recede below the current levels until well into June.

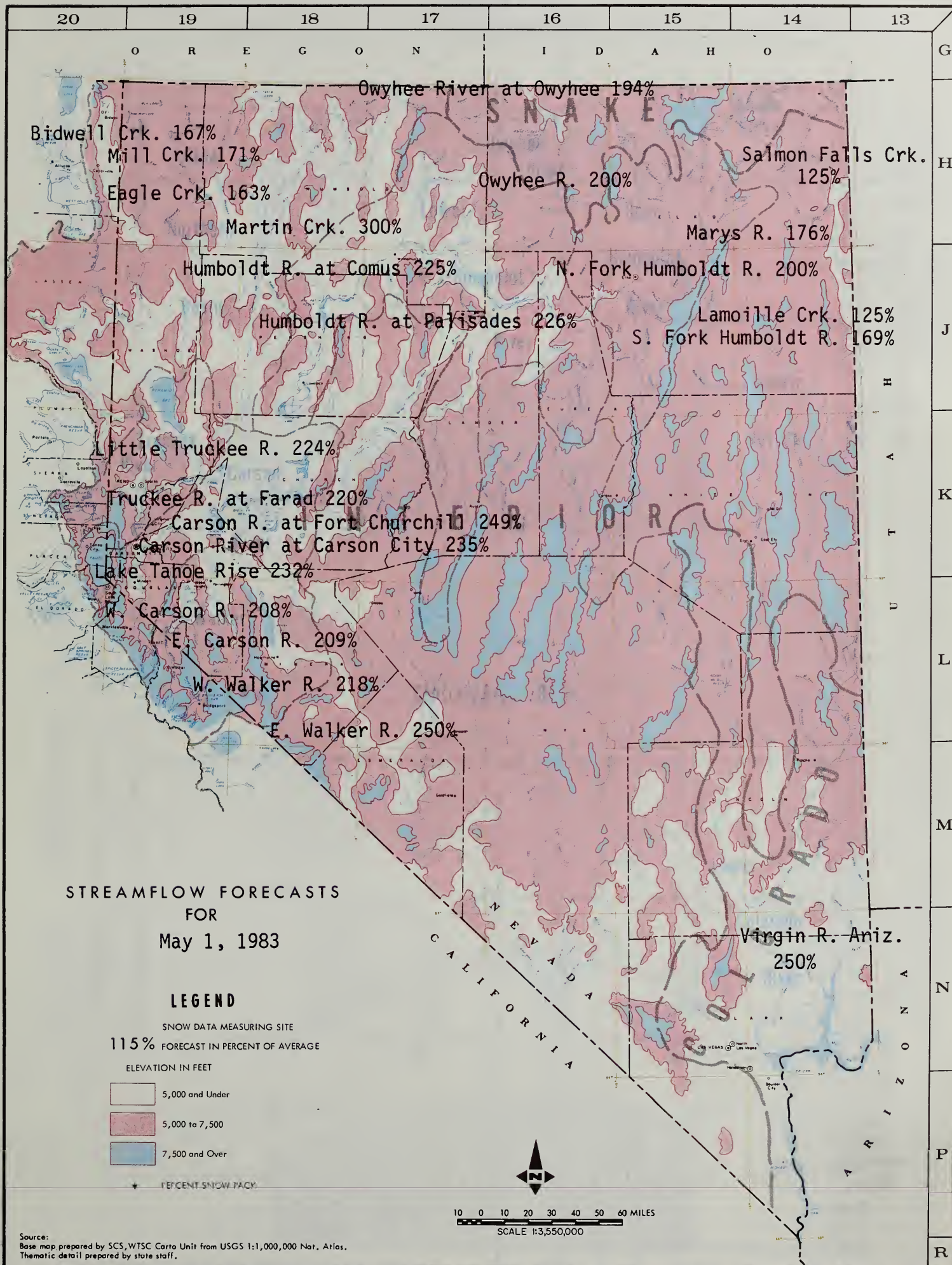
### SURPRISE VALLEY

Cedar Pass snow course is 178 percent of average and 199 percent of last year.

Streamflow in the Surprise Valley will be excellent with the availability of irrigation water late in the season. Forecasts range from 163 percent of average on Eagle Creek to 171 percent of average on Mill Creek.



# PROSPECTIVE WATER SUPPLY FOR NEVADA





# INDEX TO NEVADA SNOW COURSES (By Basins)

Refer to the map on the preceeding page for Snow Course locations.

NUMBER	NAME	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ELEV.
--------	------	------	------	------	-------

## SNAKE RIVER BASIN

SNAKE RIVER					
15H01SA	Bear Creek	31	46N	58E	7800
15H02	Fox Creek	33	46N	58E	6800
15H13SA	Goat Creek	31	46N	60E	8800
15H15A	Humminobird Springs	6	45N	60E	8945
15H20a	Merritt Mountain	10	46N	54E	7090
15H14S	Pole Creek Ranger Station	13	46N	59E	8330
15H18a	Red Point	15	47N	61E	7940
15H03SA	Seventy Six Creek	6	44N	58E	7100
15H19a	S tag Mountain	32	41N	58E	7800

## OWYHEE RIVER

15H04S	Big Bend	30	45N	56E	6700
15H06a	Columbia Basin	31	44N	53E	6650
16H09a	Fawn Creek	2	45N	52E	7000
16H13S	Fawn Creek #2	2	45N	52E	7050
15H05	Gold Creek	32	45N	56E	6600
16H01	Jack Creek, Lower	18	42N	53E	6300
16H02A	Jack Creek, Upper	9	42N	53E	7250
16H03S	Jack Creek #2, Upper	9	42N	53E	7250
16H04S	Jacks Peak	21	42N	53E	8420
16H05S	Laurel Draw	20	45N	53E	6700
17G04a	Louse Canyon (OR)	27	40S	44E	6440
15H09S	Taylor Canyon	35	39N	53E	6200

## INTERIOR

### UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER

15J17a	American Beauty	32	31N	58E	7800
15J12SA	Corral Canyon	27	28N	57E	8500
15J01S	Dorsey Basin	28	35N	60E	8100
15J03	Dry Creek	5	34N	60E	6500
15H07P	Fry Canyon	31	43N	54E	6790
15J03S	Green Mountain	23	29N	57E	8000
15J10	Harrison Pass #1	9	28N	57E	6600
15J11	Harrison Pass #2	16	28N	57E	7400
15J04	Lamoille #1	15	32N	58E	7100
15J06S	Lamoille #3	24	32N	58E	7700
15J08	Lamoille #5	31	32N	59E	8700
15J20	Pole Canyon #2	6	34N	61E	7700
15J16a	Robinson Lake	23	33N	59E	9200
15H06P	Rodeo Flat	36	43N	53E	6800
15J02	Ryan Ranch	1	34N	59E	5800
15J19	Smith Creek	26	30N	57E	7600
15J22a	Tent Mountain, Lower	26	36N	60E	7000
15J23a	Tent Mountain, Upper	35	36N	60E	8350
15H03	Tremewan Ranch	9	39N	55E	5700
15H10P	Trout Creek, Lower	28	37N	61E	6900
15H11A	Trout Creek, Upper	4	36N	61E	8500

### LOWER HUMBOLDT RIVER

17K01	Big Creek Campground	10	17N	43E	6600
17K02	Big Creek Mine	23	17N	43E	7600
17K04S	Big Creek Summit	35	17N	43E	8700
17K03	Big Creek, Upper	26	17N	43N	7800
17H02AS	Buckskin, Lower	25	45N	39E	6700
17H01A	Buckskin, Upper	11	45N	39E	8200
17L01	Corral, Lower	12	11N	40E	7500
17L02	Corral, Upper	20	11N	41E	8000
17J02	Golconda #2	22	35N	39E	6000
17H04SA	Granite Peak	22	44N	39E	7800
17H05SA	Lamance Creek	13	42N	38E	6000
17H03AP	Martin Creek	13	44N	38E	6700
16H03AP	Midas	18	39N	46E	7200
16H07a	Toe Jam	29	40N	50E	7700

## EASTERN NEVADA

14L01	Baker #1	29	13N	69E	7950
14L02	Baker #2	30	13N	69E	8950
14L03	Baker #3	25	13N	68E	9250
14K02SA	Berry Creek	26	17N	65E	9100
14K01	Bird Creek	34	19N	65E	7500
14K09a	Oefiance Mines	9	14N	63N	9200
15J16SA	Hole-in-Mountain	6	35N	61E	7900
14K08	Kalamazoo Creek	34	20N	65E	7400
14K03	Murray Summit	25	16N	62E	7250
15K01	Robinson Summit	34	18N	61E	7600
14K07	Silver Creek #2	30	16N	69E	8000
14K05SA	Ward Mountain #2	25	15N	62E	9200

## CENTRAL GREAT BASIN

18M02	Campito Mountain (CA)	19	5S	35E	10200
18M05a	Chiatovich Flat (CA)	32	2S	34E	10500
15N02	Clark Canyon	8	19S	56E	9000
18M01	Montgomery Pass	4	1N	33E	7100
18M03a	Pinchot Creek (CA)	28	1N	33E	9300
18M04a	Piute Pass (CA)	33	4S	33E	11700
15N01	Trough Springs	23	18S	55E	8500

## NORTHERN GREAT BASIN

19H01a	Bald Mountain	17	45N	21E	6720
20H05	Barber Creek (CA)	23	39N	16E	6500
20H06S	Cedar Pass (CA)	12	43N	14E	7100
18G06a	Oenio Creek (OR)	14	41S	34E	6000
18H01SA	Disaster Peak	8	47N	34E	6500
20H03a	Dismal Swamp (CA)	31	48N	17E	7000
20H11S	Dismal Swamp #2 (CA)	31	48N	17E	7050
20H07	Eagle Peak (CA)	35	40N	15E	7200
19H03P	49 Mountain	7	42N	19E	6000
19H02	Hays Canyon	1	39N	18E	6400
19H04a	Little Bally Mountain	8	45N	19E	6000
20H09P	Mt. Bidwell (CA)	6	47N	16E	7200
20H10	North Star (CA)	13	47N	16E	6200
17G05a	Oregon Canyon (OR)	9	40S	40E	7240
17H06a	Quinn Ridge	9	47N	41E	6300
20H04	Reservation Creek (CA)	12	46N	15E	5900
18G05a	Trout Creek (OR)	10	41S	38E	7800

NUMBER	NAME	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ELEV.
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## LAKE TAHOE

20L06S	Echo Peak (CA)	35	12N	17E	7800
20L05	Echo Summit (CA)	6	11N	18E	7450
20L10S	Fallen Leaf (CA)	3	13N	17E	6300
19L02	Freel Bench (CA)	36	12N	18E	7300
19K06	Glenbrook #2	13	14N	18E	6900
19L03S	Hagan's Meadow (CA)	36	12N	18E	8000
19L24S	Heavenly Valley (CA)	1	12N	18E	8850
20L04	Lake Lucille (CA)	28	12N	17E	8200
19K04S	Marlette Lake	18	15N	19E	8000
20L03	Richardsons #2 (CA)	6	12N	18E	6500
20L01	Rubicon #1 (CA)	6	13N	17E	8100
20L02S	Rubicon #2 (CA)	6	13N	17E	7500
20K16	Tahoe City (CA)	6	15N	17E	6250
20K27S	Tahoe City Cross (CA)	1	15N	16E	6750
19L01	Upper Truckee (CA)	21	12N	18E	6400
20K17	Ward Creek #2 (CA)	21	15N	16E	7000
20K25S	Ward Creek #3 (CA)	21	15N	16E	6750

## TRUCKEE RIVER

20K14	Boca #2 (CA)	28	18N	17E	5900
20K22	Brockway Summit (CA)	3	17N	16E	7100
20K28	Castle Creek (CA)	23	17N	14E	7400
20K21	Donner Park #2 (CA)	18	17N	16E	6000
20K10	Donner Summit (CA)	25	17N	14E	6900
20K07*	Fordyce Lake (CA)	34	18N	13E	6500
20K08*	Furnace Flat (CA)	10	17N	13E	6700
20K04S	Independence Camp (CA)	34	19N	15E	7000
20K03S	Independence Creek (CA)	14	19N	15E	6500
20K05S	Independence Lake (CA)	9	18N	15E	8450
19K03	Little Valley	17	16N	19E	6300
20K02S	Mt. Rose	7	17N	19E	9000
19K07S	Mt. Rose Ski Area	30	17N	19E	9000
20K06	Sage Hen Creek (CA)	7	18N	16E	6500
20K19	Squaw Valley #2 (CA)	6	15N	16E	7500
20K30S	Squaw Valley Gold Coast (CA)	36	16N	15E	8200
20K13S	Truckee #2 (CA)	22	17N	16E	6400
20K02*	Webber Lake (CA)	29	19N	14E	7000
20K01*	Webber Peak (CA)	30	19N	14E	8000

## CARSON RIVER

19L05S	Blue Lakes (CA)	30	9N	19E	8000
19L04	Carson Pass, Upper (CA)	22	10N	18E	8600
19K05	Clear Creek	6	14N	19E	7300
19L19A	Ebbetts Pass (CA)	17	8N	20E	8700
19L32S	Ebbetts Pass #2 (CA)	17	8N	20E	8700
19L16a	Fish Valley, Upper (CA)	1	7N	22E	8050
19L40A	Monitor Pass (CA)	31	9N	21E	8350
19L16a	Fish Valley, Upper (CA)	1	7N	22E	8050
19L06SA	Poison Flat (CA)	25	8N	21E	7900
19L39S	Spratt Creek (CA)	31	10N	20E	6100
19L31S	Wet Meadows #2 (CA)	26	9N	19E	8100
19L18a	Wet Meadows Lake (CA)	26	9N	19E	8050
19L20a	Wolf Creek (CA)	35	8N	20E	8000

## WALKER RIVER

19L11	Buckeye Forks (CA)	20	4N	23E	8500
19L10	Buckeye Roughs (CA)	15	4N	23E	7900
19L12	Center Mountain (CA)	4	3N	23E	9400
19L30A	Center Mountain (CA)	4	3N	23E	9400
19L08S	Leavitt Lake (CA)	13	5N	21E	9400
19L38	Leavitt Meadows (CA)	4	5N	22E	7200
19L17SA	Loddell Lake (CA)	20	7N	24E	9200
19L34	Sawmill Ridge (CA)	17	3N	24E	8750
19L07	Sonora Pass (CA)	1	5N	21E	8800
19L23S	Sonora Pass Bridge (CA)	6	5N	22E	8800
19M01*	Tioga Pass (CA)	30	1N	25E	9900
19L13	Virginia Lakes (CA)	5	2N	25E	9500
19L22S	Virginia Lakes Ridge (CA)	32	2N	25E	9200
19L09	Willow Flat (CA)	21	5N	23E	8250

## COLORADO

### LOWER COLORADO RIVER

15L02a	Corduroy Flat	14	13N	58E	8720
14M04a	Ella Mountain	35	5S	67E	7050
15N05	Kyle Canyon	26	19S	56E	8200
15N03	Lee Canyon #2	9	19S	56E	9000
15N08	Lee Canyon #3	10	19S	56E	8500
14M01a	Mathew Canyon	10	5S	70E	6000
14L04a	Mt. Wilson	27	5N	68E	8050
14M02a	Pine Canyon	23	6S	69E	6200
15N07	Rainbow Canyon #2	6	20S	57E	8100
15L01	White River #1	31	13N	59E	7400
15L03a	White River	31	13N	59E	7440

## LEGEND

### NUMBERING SYSTEM (EXAMPLE)

19K04	Snow Course Only
19K04S	Snow Course with SNOTEL
19K04A	Snow Course and Aerial Marker
19K04P	Snow Course and Storage Precipitation Gage

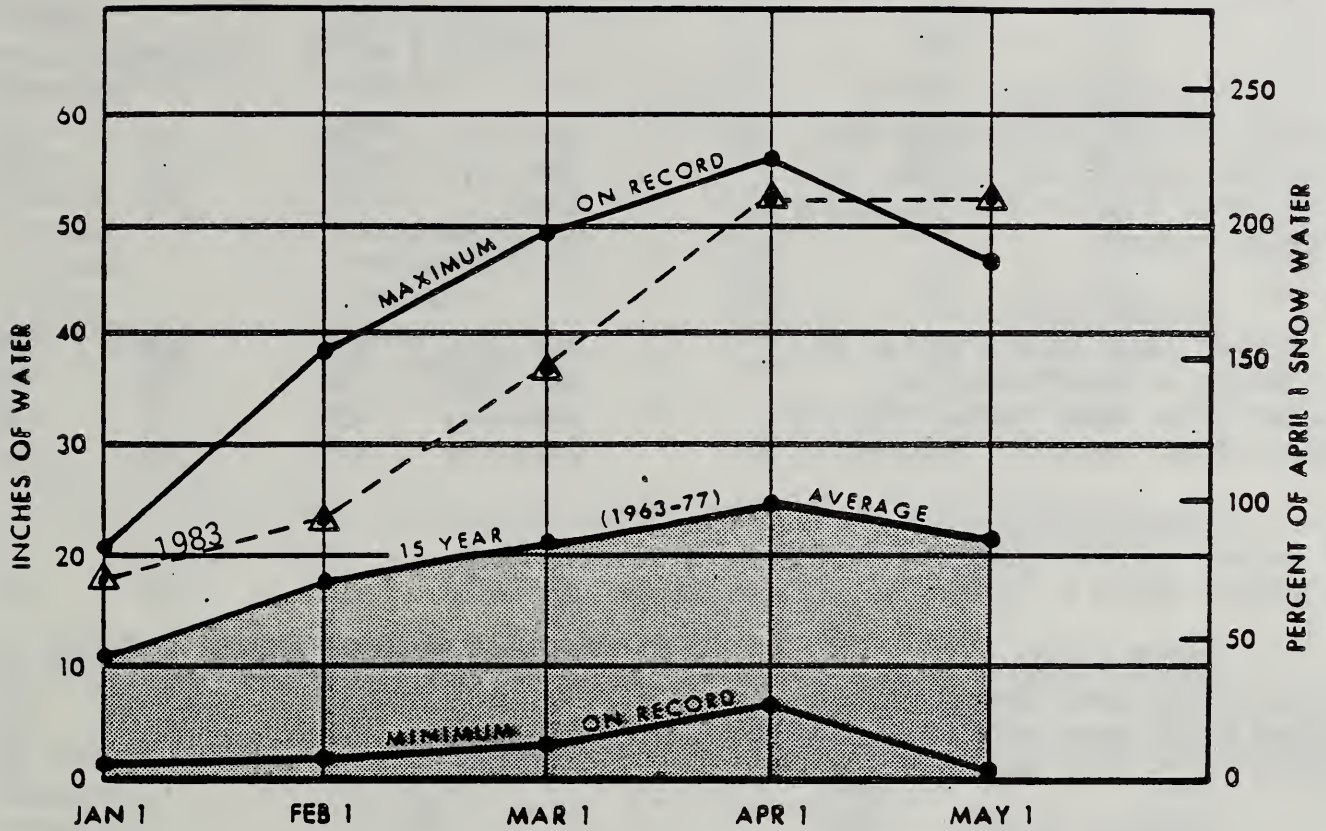
Lower case letter "a" indicates no snow course, only an Aerial Marker.  
SNOTEL has telemetered data for snow pillow, precipitation gage, and temperature. \* Adjacent basin.

# WINTER SNOWPACK

## TAHOE, TRUCKEE, CARSON & WALKER BASINS CALIFORNIA - NEVADA

1983

Data based on 9 long term Snow Courses

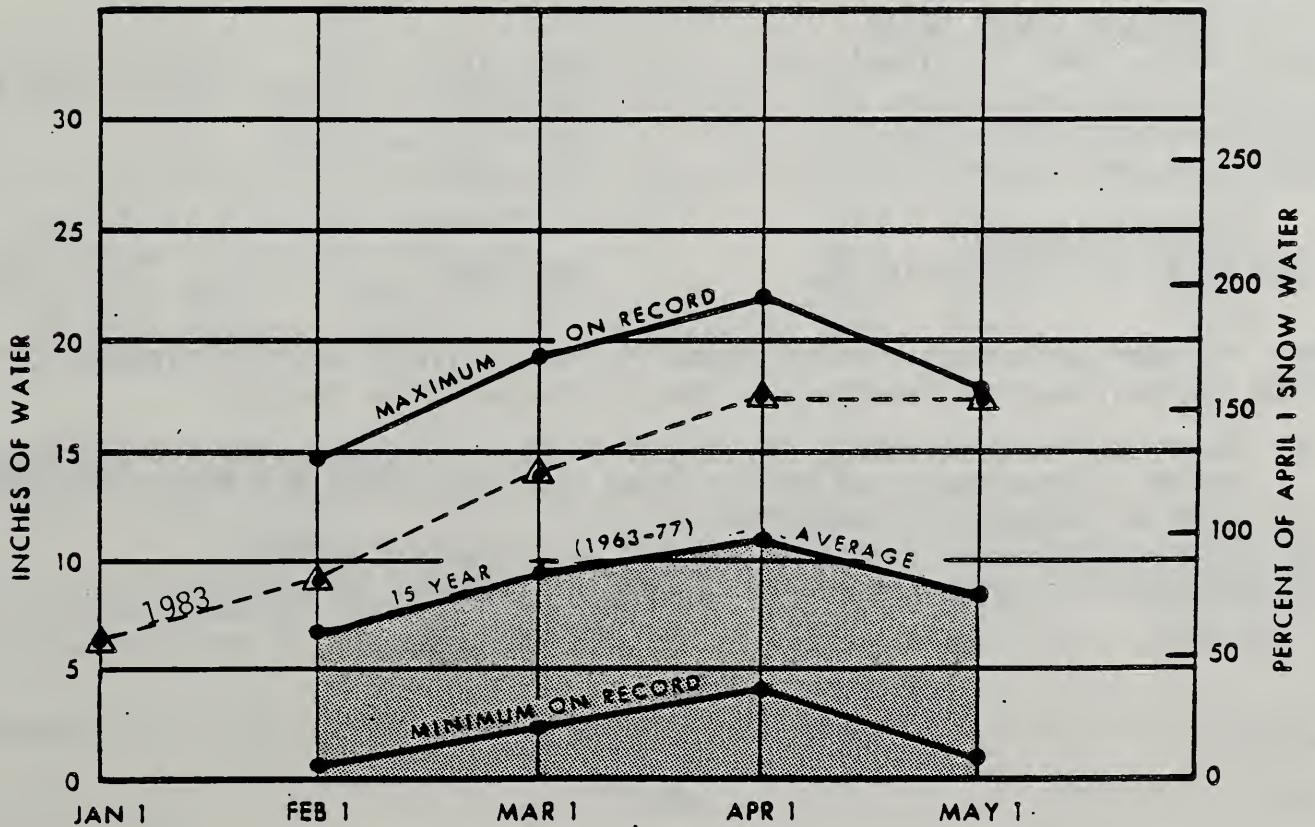


# WINTER SNOWPACK

## UPPER HUMBOLDT & SNAKE BASINS NEVADA

1983

Data based on 13 selected Snow Courses





# STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (Thousand Acre Feet) as of: May 1, 1983

Forecasts are based on snow-water presently stored in the mountain watersheds and the assumption that precipitation will be near average throughout the forecast period. Peak flow forecasts indicate the most probable range for the maximum average 24-hour flow. All averages are for 1963-77 period.

FORECAST POINT	Forecast Period	Forecast This Year	This Year as Percent of Average	Average +
<u>TRUCKEE RIVER</u>				
Little Truckee River above Boca, CA.	Apr-July	195	224	87
Truckee River at Farad, CA. <u>1/</u>	Apr-July	600	220	273
Lake Tahoe Rise in Ft. (assuming gates closed)	April 1 to High	3.3	232	1.42
<u>CARSON RIVER</u>				
E. Carson near Gardnerville, CA.	Apr-July	380	209	187
W. Carson at Woodfords, CA.	Apr-July	110	208	53
Carson River near Carson City, NV.	Apr-July	430	235	183
Carson River near Ft. Churchill, NV.	Apr-July	415	249	167
<u>WALKER RIVER</u>				
E. Walker near Bridgeport, CA. <u>2/</u>	Apr-Aug.	175	250	69
W. Walker below L. Walker nr. Coleville CA.	Apr-July	318	218	146
<u>SNAKE RIVER</u>				
Owyhee River near Owyhee, NV. <u>3/</u>	Apr-July	155	194	80
Owyhee River near Gold Crk., NV. <u>3/</u>	Apr-July	45	200	22
Salmon Falls Crk. near San Jacinto, NV.	May-Sept.	79	125	95
<u>HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>				
Lamoille Creek near Lamoille, NV.	Apr-July	35	125	28
S. Fork Humboldt above Dixie Crk., NV.	Apr-July	125	169	73
Marys River above Hot Springs, NV.	Apr-July	65	176	37
N. Fork Humboldt at Devils Gate, NV.	Apr-July	70	200	35
Humboldt River at Palisade, NV.	Apr-July	500	226	221
Humboldt River at Comus, NV.	Apr-July	400	225	175
Martin Crk. near Paradise, NV.	Apr-July	45	300	15
<u>NORTHERN GREAT BASIN</u>				
Bidwell Crk., near Ft. Bidwell, CA.	Apr-July	20	167	12
Mill Creek near Cedarville, CA.	Apr-July	7.0	171	4.1
Deep Creek near Cedarville, CA.	Apr-July	6.0	167	3.6
Eagle Creek near Eagleville, CA.	Apr-July	7.0	163	4.3
<u>COLORADO RIVER</u>				
Virgin River at Littlefield, AZ.	May-June			29

**NOTE:** Streamflow forecasts which appear in this Bulletin are coordinated activity of the National Weather Service and the Soil Conservation Service.

- 1/ Observed flow plus change in storage in Boca, Stampede, and Prosser Reservoirs Donner, Independence and Martis Creek Lake, and minus the flow at Truckee River at Tahoe City, California.
- 2/ Observed flow plus change in storage in Bridgeport Reservoir.
- 3/ Observed flow plus change in storage in Wildhorse Reservoir.

+ 1963-1977 period.

# **RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet) AS OF May 1, 1983**

Basin or Stream	RESERVOIR	Usable Capacity	Usable Storage		
			This Year	Last Year	Average +
Owyhee	Wild Horse	72	76	64	35
Lower Humboldt	Rye Patch	194	168	114	135
Colorado	Mohave	1,810	1,628	1,712	1,700
Colorado	Mead	26,159	24,614	22,681	17,200
Tahoe	Tahoe	745	509	628	513
Truckee	Boca	41	10	32	30
Truckee	Stampede**	222	228	199	129*
Truckee	Prosser***	30	9	11	12*
Carson	Lahontan	295	182	247	237
West Walker	Topaz	59	17	37	42
East Walker	Bridgeport	42	10	26	32

\* Adjusted average.  
 \*\* Storage began August 1, 1969.  
 \*\*\* Flood Control use allocation of 20,000 acre-feet between November 1 and April 10.

## **TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet)**

MONTH	This Year	Last Year	Average +
October 1	1,172	358	786
January 1	1,070	688	844
February 1	1,114	804	920
March 1	1,089	935	968
April 1	1,079	1,047	1,010
May 1	972	1,148	1,024

The above data developed from Wild Horse, Rye Patch, Tahoe, Boca, Lahontan, Topaz, and Bridgeport Reservoirs in 1,000 Acre-feet.  
**TOTAL USABLE CAPACITY 1,448**

## **PEAK FLOWS (MAXIMUM MEAN DAILY) (Av. flow for 24 hrs. on day of greatest flow)**

FORECAST POINT	PEAK FLOW (SECOND FEET)	
	Forecast Range	Average +
E.. Fork Carson River nr. Gardnerville, NV.	3100 - 3800	1,865
Carson River near Carson City, NV.	4300 - 5100	2,098
Carson River near Ft. Churchill, NV.	3600 - 4400	1,914
W. Walker R. below L. Walker R. nr Coleville CA.	2900 - 3500	1,589

## **FORECAST DATE of LOW FLOW VALUES**

FORECAST POINT	Low Flow Value Second/Ft.	Forecast Date Stream Will Recede to Low Flow Value	Average Date of Low Flow Value
East Carson River nr. Gardnerville, NV.	200	Sept. 4	July 24
East Carson River nr. Gardnerville, NV.	500	Aug. 10	June 28

+ 1963-1977 period.



# SATELLITE SNOW COVER

## TAHOE-TRUCKEE, CARSON AND WALKER BASINS

APRIL 16, 1983



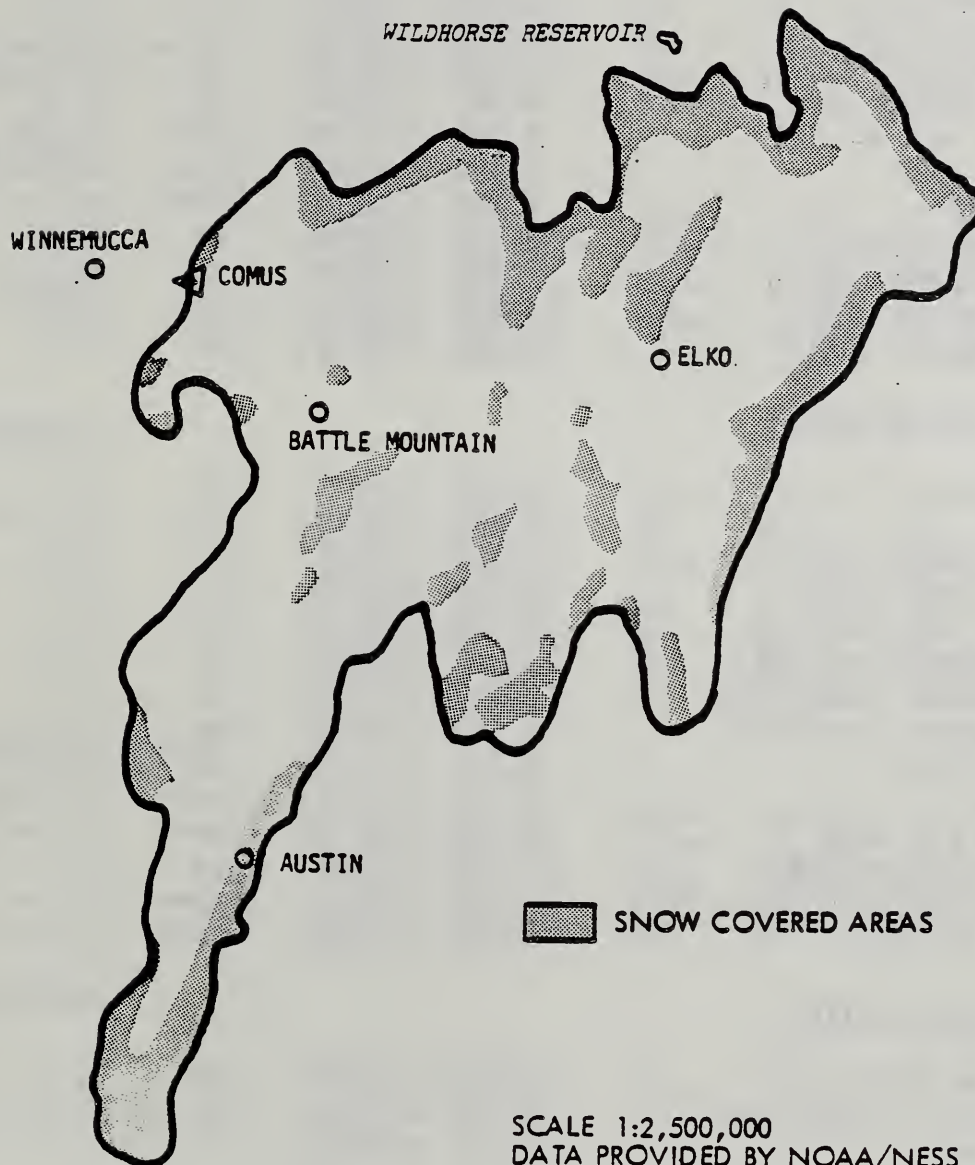
SCALE 1:2,000,000  
DATA PROVIDED BY NOAA/NESS  
WASHINGTON D.C.

<u>BASIN</u>	<u>THIS YEAR</u>	<u>PERCENT SNOW COVER</u>	<u>LAST YEAR</u>	<u>PERCENT SNOW COVER</u>
TAHOE-TRUCKEE	November 14, 1982	10.6%	January 31, 1982	48.0%
	December 28, 1982	50.0%	February 24, 1982	28.0%
	January 28, 1983	39.8%	March 24, 1982	27.0%
	February 24, 1983	38.0%	April 27, 1982	24.0%
	March 30, 1983	38.0%		
	April 16, 1983	32.0%		
CARSON	November 14, 1982	8.2%	January 31, 1982	48.0%
	December 28, 1982	25.0%	February 24, 1982	10.0%
	January 28, 1983	19.2%	March 24, 1982	12.0%
	February 24, 1983	19.0%	April 27, 1982	11.0%
	March 30, 1983	38.0%		
	April 16, 1983	6.0%		
WALKER	November 14, 1982	16.3%	January 31, 1982	43.0%
	December 28, 1982	46.0%	February 24, 1982	20.0%
	January 28, 1983	52.0%	March 24, 1982	17.0%
	February 29, 1983	34.0%	April 27, 1982	12.0%
	March 30, 1983	29.0%		
	April 16, 1983	25.0%		

# SATELLITE SNOW COVER

## HUMBOLDT RIVER ABOVE COMUS, NEVADA

APRIL 16, 1983



SCALE 1:2,500,000  
DATA PROVIDED BY NOAA/NESS  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

<u>THIS YEAR</u>	<u>PERCENT SNOW COVER</u>	<u>LAST YEAR</u>	<u>PERCENT SNOW COVER</u>
November 23, 1982	45.1%	January 1, 1982	97.0%
December 28, 1982	87.0%	January 6, 1982	100.0%
		January 27, 1982	98.0%
January 28, 1983	94.2%	January 30, 1982	88.0%
		February 6, 1982	87.0%
February 16, 1983	72.2%	February 16, 1982	63.0%
February 22, 1983	71.0%	February 30, 1982	46.0%
		March 6, 1982	42.0%
		March 13, 1982	25.0%
March 30, 1983	38.0%	March 24, 1982	20.0%
		April 8, 1982	28.0%
		April 13, 1982	20.0%
April 16, 1983	23.0%	April 18, 1982	18.0%
		April 23, 1982	16.0%



# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average †

## LAKE TAHOE

Echo Peak (CA)	7,800	4/26/83	173	79.5	53.5	----
Echo Summit (CA)	7,450	5/02/83	116	81.6	39.7	26.2
Fallen Leaf (CA)	6,240	5/01/83	27	11.3	0.0	----
Freel Bench (CA)	7,300	4/26/83	62	25.5	2.7	5.8*
Hagan's Meadow (CA)	8,000	4/26/83	93	39.8	14.8	12.3*
Heavenly Valley (CA)	8,800	5/01/83	122**	52.5**	40.6	24.2*
Marlette Lake	8,000	4/26/83	118	48.2	26.0	20.6*
Rubicon #2	7,500	5/01/83	154**	66.1**	46.3	----
Tahoe City Cross	6,750	5/02/83	92	43.9		
Upper Truckee (CA)	6,400	4/26/83	39	15.2	0.1	2.2*
Ward Creek #2 (CA)	7,000	5/02/83	182	81.9	55.7	38.8
Ward Creek #3 (CA)	6,750	4/26/83	163	72.3	50.0	37.9*

## TRUCKEE RIVER

Big Meadows	8,300	4/26/83	104	43.3	31.3	----
CSS Lab	6,900	5/01/83	192**	82.2**		
Donner Summit (CA)	6,900	5/02/83	169	80.8	45.7	33.6*
Fordyce Lake (CA)b	6,500	4/29/83	186	92.9	47.4	38.1*
Furnace Flat (CA)	6,700	5/02/83	197	106.7	60.6	45.5
Independence Camp (CA)	7,000	5/02/83	92	39.9	22.6	17.4*
Independence Creek (CA)	6,500	5/02/83	54	24.3	9.3	6.6*
Independence Lake (CA)	8,450	5/02/83	184	76.7	71.1	46.9*
Little Valley	6,300	4/29/83	25	9.7		
Mt. Rose	9,000	5/01/83	144**	64.6**	61.6	----
Mt. Rose Ski Area	8,850	5/01/83	194**	83.6**	76.4	38.8*
Squaw Valley #2 (CA)	7,500	5/02/83	229	104.2	77.7	51.7*
Squaw Valley Gold Coast (CA)	8,200	5/01/83	248**	114.3**	87.5**	----
Truckee #2 (CA)	6,400	5/01/83	65**	26.1**		

## CARSON RIVER

Blue Lakes (CA)b	8,000	5/03/83	168	74.0	49.0	33.7
Carson Pass, Upper (CA)	8,600	4/26/83	155	70.0	58.1	33.1
Clear Creek	7,300	4/29/83	46	13.3	----	----
Ebbetts Pass AM (CA)	8,700	AM BURIED			BURIED	----
Ebbetts Pass #2 (CA)	8,700	4/26/83	175	75.7	67.5	----
Spratt Creek (CA)	6,100	4/26/83	6	1.5	0.0	----
Wet Meadows Lake AM (CA)	8,050	4/26/83	142	61.1	43.7	----
Wet Meadows #2	8,050	4/26/83	188	81.0	57.8	----

## WALKER RIVER

Sonora Pass (CA)	8,800	4/26/83	115	48.2	37.3	20.3
Sonora Pass Bridge (CA)	8,800	4/26/83	117	45.8	37.8	26.3
Virginia Lakes (CA)	9,500	4/26/83	80	32.9	22.6	15.1*
Virginia Lakes Ridge (CA)	9,200	4/26/83	87	34.1	26.0	16.0*

## NORTHERN GREAT BASIN

Cedar Pass (CA)	7,100	4/29/83	62	27.1	13.6	15.2**
Disaster Peak	6,500	5/01/83	30**	12.1**	8.7	----
Dismal Swamp #2 (CA)	7,000	5/01/83	106**	45.4**	31.6**	----

# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average †

## SNAKE RIVER

Bear Creek	7,800	5/01/83	67**	28.2**	27.5	20.8a
Goat Creek	8,800	5/03/83	68	26.8	26.5	20.9
Pole Creek Ranger Station	8,300	5/03/83	68	28.8	29.1	23.6
Seventy Six Creek	7,100	5/01/83	34**	14.1**	16.0	3.2

## OWYHEE RIVER

Big Bend	6,700	5/01/83	20**	8.4**	8.3	2.4
Fawn Creek #2	7,050	5/01/83	77**	33.0**	20.9	-----
Jack Creek #2, Upper	7,250	5/01/83	75**	32.4**	22.4	-----
Laurel Draw	6,700	5/01/83	21**	8.6**	5.6	-----
Taylor Canyon	6,200	5/01/83	0	0.0	0.0	0.5

## UPPER HUMBOLDT

Corral Canyon	8,500	5/01/83	58**	23.7**	21.6	-----
Dorsey Basin	8,100	4/27/83	55	22.3	18.6	-----
Green Mountain	8,000	5/01/83	51**	21. **	15.1	-----
Lamoille #1	7,100	4/27/83	33	14.0	6.1	4.4*
Lamoille #3	7,700	4/27/83	40	16.3	11.1	8.3*
Lamoille #5	8,700	4/27/83	92	40.0	49.6	30.0*

## LOWER HUMBOLDT RIVER

Big Creek Summit	8,700	5/01/83	98**	42.3**	15.0**	-----
Buckskin, Lower	6,700	5/01/83	43**	17.8**	7.4	-----
Granite Peak	7,800	5/01/83	88**	37.2**	26.8	-----
Lamance Creek	6,000	5/01/83	52**	21.9**	4.8	-----

## EASTERN NEVADA

Berry Creek	9,100	4/28/83	75	28.5	15.7**	16.3*
Ward Mountain #2	7,400	5/01/83	70**	30.0**	14.6**	-----
Hole-in-Mountain	7,900	4/27/83	76	34.3	-----	-----

## DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE MEASUREMENT: TAHOE-TRUCKEE BASIN

Alder Creek	6,960	NOT MEASURED			40.8	-----
Apollo Way	7,300	4/26/83	101	42.4	0.0	-----
Bennett Flat	6,200	5/02/83	60	28.2e	6.4	-----
Davis Creek	5,160	5/02/83	0	0.0	0.0	-----
Evergreen Hills Road	5,700	4/26/83	0	0.0	0.0	-----
Galena Creek	7,440	NOT MEASURED			21.2	-----
Hennes Pass Junction	6,410	5/02/83	62	29.1e	9.7	-----
Hobart Mills	5,850	5/02/83	21	9.9e	0.0	-----
Incline Lake	8,000	4/26/83	136	58.6	28.9	-----
Jones Creek	6,000	4/26/83	0	0.0	0.0	-----
Mt. Rose Resort	8,280	4/26/83	157	68.0	53.5	-----
North Star Fire Department	6,320	5/02/83	20	9.4e	0.0	-----
Reindeer Lodge	7,060	4/26/83	56	25.1	0.0	-----

# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
NAME	Elevation				Last Year	Average †

## DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE MEASUREMENT (CONT.):

RNR Test Site	6,400	4/26/83	29	12.4	0.0	----
Sky Tavern	7,620	4/26/83	97	42.7	14.3	----
Spooner Summit	7,620	5/02/83	65	30.6e	0.0	----
Squaw Valley Fire Department	6,240	5/02/83	84	39.5e	10.2	----
Tahoe City	6,240	5/02/83	60	28.2e	3.4	----
Tahoe Meadows	8,540	5/03/83	196	95.8	69.7	----
Tamarack Lake	8,820	NOT MEASURED			64.4	----
Third and Incline Creeks	6,235	4/26/83	5	1.0	0.0	----
Thunder Cliff	6,200	5/02/83	60	28.2e	7.4	----
Truckee Airport	5,900	5/02/83	0	0.0	0.0	----
White Creeks	5,670	4/26/83	0	0.0	0.0	----

- a Aerial Marker
- b Located on adjacent basin
- e Estimated
- \* Less than 15-year record
- \*\* SNOTEL provisional, depth estimated
- NS Not scheduled

NOTE: All averages based on 1963-1977, 15 years period.  
Forecast period is April 1 through July 31 unless otherwise noted.



# PRECIPITATION (Inches)

DRAINAGE BASIN and PRECIPITATION GAGE LOCATION	ELEVATION	CURRENT INFORMATION			FROM OCTOBER 1 TO DATE		
		Date of Reading	Month's Precipitation	Last Year	This Year	Last Year	MAY 1 Average
<u>TAHOE-TRUCKEE</u>							
Big Meadows	8,300	5/1/83	4.7	3.8	48.9	48.7e	----
CSS Lab (CA)	6,900	5/1/83	10.2	----	92.2	----	----
Echo Peak (CA)	7,800	5/1/83	4.2	10.2	81.7	88.1e	53.4
Fallen Leaf (CA)	6,240	5/1/83	0.6	5.7	45.6	55.7	10.4
Hagan's Meadow (CA)	8,000	5/1/83	4.5	5.2	38.9	48.1	23.5
Heavenly Valley (CA)	8,800	5/1/83	6.2	4.5	49.2	45.4	38.1
Independence Camp (CA)	7,000	5/1/83	5.5	8.0	50.2	65.0	35.1
Independence Creek (CA)	6,500	5/1/83	4.2	7.2	50.6	61.1	20.2
Independence Lake (CA)	8,450	5/1/83	4.8	13.7	67.5e	76.2	50.1
Marlette Lake	8,000	5/1/83	6.3	3.9	52.8	49.6	24.9
Mt. Rose	9,000	5/1/83	6.9	8.8	62.3e	49.8	29.7
Mt. Rose Ski Area	8,850	5/1/83	9.8	9.8	86.9	87.3	42.6
Rubicon #2	7,500	5/1/83	6.1	8.6	61.3	72.0	35.9
Squaw Valley Gold Coast (CA)	7,800	5/1/83	11.0	14.0e	77.3	120.9	62.3
Tahoe City Cross (CA)	6,750	5/1/83	3.9	7.0	50.2	64.7	21.9
Truckee #2 (CA)	6,400	5/1/83	5.4	6.0	48.5	59.2	17.7
Ward Creek #3 (CA)	6,750	5/1/83	7.7	11.0	95.3	118.5	61.1
<u>CARSON-WALKER</u>							
Blue Lakes (CA)	8,000	5/1/83	10.1	7.4	73.1	69.4	40.3
Ebbetts Pass #2 (CA)	8,700	5/1/83	10.6	10.6	82.0	79.5	49.6
Leavitt Meadows (CA)	7,200	5/1/83	2.8	4.9	42.6	48.3	29.7
Lobdell Lake (CA)	9,200	5/1/83	3.2	3.0	37.4	30.8	20.7
Poison Flat (CA)	7,900	5/1/83	4.4	5.9	47.4	49.3	21.8
Sonora Pass Bridge (CA)	8,800	5/1/83	4.3	6.5	55.8	56.5	32.4
Spratt Creek (CA)	6,080	5/1/83	2.7e	3.2	48.1e	49.5	27.6
Virginia Lakes Ridge (CA)	9,200	5/1/83	3.3	5.1	42.3	36.1	22.0
Wet Meadows #2 (CA)	8,050	5/1/83	10.5	8.0	79.4	73.8e	38.0
<u>HUMBOLDT</u>							
Big Creek Summit	8,700	5/1/83	3.7	1.2	29.4	18.2	16.5
Buckskin, Lower	6,700	5/1/83	3.2	2.6	25.9	26.4	14.9
Corral Canyon	8,500	5/1/83	4.0	2.3	27.6	26.2	22.3
Dorsey Basin	8,100	5/1/83	4.1	1.8	31.3	30.4	19.6
Granite Peak	7,800	5/1/83	----	3.3	----	50.5e	19.5
Green Mountain	8,000	5/1/83	3.7	1.9	29.2	28.1	18.1
Lamance Creek	6,000	5/1/83	2.8	2.5	30.1	31.1	13.8
Lamoille #3	7,700	5/1/83	4.2	1.9	26.8	28.5	22.4
<u>SNAKE-OWYHEE</u>							
Bear Creek	7,800	5/1/83	3.8	2.6	29.3	34.3	23.4
Big Bend	6,700	5/1/83	1.5	1.3	14.6	18.7	15.1
Fawn Creek #2	7,000	5/1/83	3.8	3.4	31.6	34.4	28.7
Goat Creek	8,800	5/1/83	4.5	2.0	32.3	33.8	23.6
Jack Creek #2, Upper	7,250	5/1/83	2.0	2.3	25.9	33.8e	20.0
Jacks Peak	8,420	5/1/83	3.1	2.8	39.1	42.1	----
Laurel Draw	6,700	5/1/83	2.2	2.4	22.3	28.3	18.4
Pole Creek Ranger Station	8,330	5/1/83	2.5	1.2	16.6	19.9	16.9
Seventy Six Creek	7,100	5/1/83	1.6	1.3	18.3	21.8	16.3
Taylor Canyon	6,200	5/1/83	1.4	0.8	8.6	12.2	8.9
<u>EASTERN NEVADA</u>							
Berry Creek	9,100	5/1/83	----	2.0	24.3	23.6	23.0
Hole-in-Mountain	7,900	5/1/83	5.1	4.8	27.8	41.8	----
Ward Mountain	8,900	5/1/83	3.8	1.9	25.4	24.5	18.0
<u>NORTHERN GREAT BASIN</u>							
Cedar Pass (CA)	7,100	5/1/83	3.7	2.9	36.7	37.8	28.2
Disaster Peak	6,500	5/1/83	2.3	0.9	26.1	24.6	16.6
Dismal Swamp #2 (CA)	7,050	5/1/83	6.8	6.3	56.8	58.9	56.1
All Data SNOTEL Provisional							

PRECIPITATION (Inches) NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, RENO, NEVADA - MAY, 1983

DRAINAGE BASIN and PRECIPITATION GAGE LOCATION	ELEVATION	CURRENT INFORMATION			OCTOBER 1 TO DATE		
		Month's Precip.	Last Year	*Normal	This Year	Last Year	*Normal
<u>TRUCKEE-TAHOE</u>							
Boca	5,575	2.67	2.97	1.56	36.96	34.63	19.13
Glenbrook	6,350	2.16	2.05	1.16	28.70	29.00	15.68
Incline Village	6,550	3.82	3.13	1.29	36.71	39.00	19.23
Reno	4,404	1.35	.34	.47	11.36	6.91	5.43
Sierraville	4,975	2.70	3.14	1.70	41.58	47.62	24.34
Tahoe City	6,230	2.58	6.71	2.33	45.57	61.21	30.08
Truckee Ranger Station	5,995	4.04	5.93	2.45	42.72	51.63	29.58
<u>CARSON-WALKER</u>							
Bridgeport Ranger Station	6,560	0.80	1.55	.46	15.03	8.55	9.39
Carson City	4,651	0.82	1.41	.54	16.57	14.18	9.68
Fallon Experiment Station	3,965	.84	.05	.33	6.58	2.91	2.92
Hawthorne	4,215	0.87	.66	.51	3.53	2.06	2.70
Minden	4,720	1.22	1.58	.47	*	9.45	6.64
Twin Lakes	7,829	5.89	9.64	4.64	53.80	68.67	45.22
Woodfords	5,971	2.25	3.05	1.25	33.94	30.80	17.74
Yerington	4,375	2.12	2.12	.34	6.70	3.44	3.37
<u>HUMBOLDT</u>							
Austin	6,605	2.93	.87	1.47	12.81	9.80	7.73
Battle Mountain	4,530	1.14	.30	.76	5.10	2.38	4.71
Deeth	5,338	1.75	.44	.93	12.56	10.10	5.82
Elko	5,075	1.28	.50	.82	10.01	8.33	6.38
Emigrant Pass	5,755	1.38	.38	1.08	11.27	9.13	8.22
Jiggs	5,760	1.13	.66	1.35	11.19	7.76	7.41
Lamoille	5,800	1.06	1.21	2.53	*	11.07	12.36
Lovelock FAA	3,900	.39	.30	.36	5.86	4.19	2.96
North Fork	6,600	.58	*	.86	*	*	6.02
Paradise Valley	4,675	1.58	.12	.59	11.90	11.36	6.74
Wells	5,650	1.35	1.30	.94	8.49	10.10	6.66
Winnemucca	4,301	.82	.29	.73	7.56	6.24	5.78
<u>SNAKE-OWYHEE</u>							
Contact	5,365	1.18	.53	.64	5.87	7.83	4.65
Mountain City	5,620	1.36	.94	*	8.69	9.73	*
Owyhee	6,491	1.74	.78	1.50	10.94	10.33	9.40
Tuscarora	6,170	1.52	1.09	1.36	13.59	15.35	10.00
<u>EASTERN NEVADA</u>							
Arthur	6,280	1.34	.97	1.33	13.84	14.99	10.01
Ely	6,253	1.46	.72	1.00	8.15	8.26	5.06
Montello	4,880	.60	.27	.54	5.80	5.30	3.54
Pequop	6,030	1.87	.90	*	11.70	11.70	*
Ruby Lake	6,012	1.52	.79	1.17	11.44	12.52	8.57
<u>NORTHERN GREAT BASIN</u>							
Alturas Ranger Station	4,400	1.63	.45	1.00	11.89	10.68	9.41
Cedarville	4,670	1.50	.78	.97	10.93	14.66	11.01
Ft. Bidwell	4,498	1.69	1.28	1.04	17.98	18.91	12.25
Orovada	4,310	3.33	.50	1.12	10.66	8.73	7.47
Susanville	4,148	1.37	1.78	.73	18.87	18.07	12.25
<u>CENTRAL GREAT BASIN</u>							
Tonopah	5,426	.85	.26	.32	6.97	3.73	2.19
<u>LOWER COLORADO RIVER</u>							
Caliente	4,402	1.72	.25	.84	9.23	1.85	5.61
Las Vegas	2,162	.45	.01	.27	3.48	1.93	2.37
Pioche	6,165	1.37	.61	1.34	13.65	7.23	8.95
Bishop	4,118	.22	1.62	.41	8.75	5.07	4.99
* Not Available							
T Trace							
Normals are for 30 year period of 1941-1970.							

